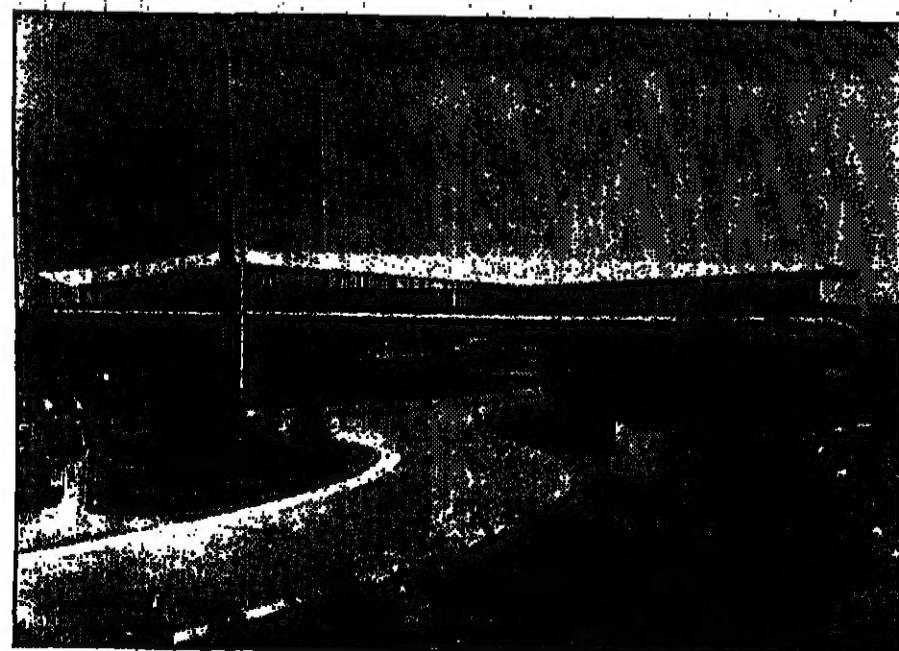


Whatever they may be, your expectations will be exceeded. Even the most imaginative mind finds it difficult to picture what the pubs, restaurants, monastery tap-rooms and wine taverns are like in this country. Cosy-Gemütlich, fascinating, always different. We are thinking of the many recommended establishments with their own and local specialties as well as international cuisine.

They are contemporary or even very modern - like those on the motorways. Or they are traditional or even historic, wellpreserved from the middle ages or hidden below thatched roofs - like those in the Altes Land near Hamburg. They are hidden away in narrow lanes - like many students' pubs in Heidelberg, historic hotels behind timber-framed walls - like in the Black Forest resort of Herrenalb -

between vineyards and wine-cas along the German Wine Road. There are also the old country of Northern Germany and the unique beer gardens of Upper Bavaria. As we said before: Even the most imaginative mind . . . Perhaps you should visit Germany solely to visit its pubs and restaurants . . .



DZT DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE FÜR TOURISMUS
Beethovenstrasse 68, D-6000 Frankfurt

Sceptical reaction to Brezhnev offer

It is strange that the immediate response to Mr Brezhnev's announcement that the Soviet Union is to unilaterally reduce its troop strength and firepower in Central Europe has been one of scepticism.

The figures the Soviet leader mentioned have been contrasted with others in the clear intention of making his planned troop cuts appear a no more than token reduction.

To hear the pundits talk you would think the withdrawal of 20,000 Soviet troops and 1,000 tanks from the GDR was neither here nor there.

The Kremlin currently has between 340,000 and 400,000 men stationed in Central Europe. Nato's 7,000 tanks face 20,500 of the Warsaw Pact.

Besides, the argument continues, who can tell whether Mr Brezhnev is withdrawing fighting units or just support forces and mothballed tanks?

His offer to reduce in number Soviet medium-range missiles has met with even greater scepticism, especially as Mr Brezhnev does indeed make this move dependent on a corresponding concession by the West.

Western Europe, he says, must in return not base additional medium-range nuclear missiles on its territory.

The obvious (and convenient) answer to this challenge is that the Soviet offer

IN THIS ISSUE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS Page 2

The Pope's to-the-point speech hits home to millions

SHIPPING Page 8

Women get a chance at the helm

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Page 12

Russians flock to show and learn what the papers didn't say

LEISURE Page 14

Hikers stride out for all corners - with pitfalls for the unwary

is intended to accomplish no more than the stabilisation of a strategic advantage the Kremlin currently enjoys.

This is the counter-argument advanced, by what are customarily described as well-informed Nato circles.

The offer of "fine-sounding but objectively inadequate prior concessions," as Christian Democratic defence expert Alois Mertes describes Mr Brezhnev's bid, is mere window-dressing.

In their assessment of a troop-cut offer of this kind, defence experts must naturally compare military data and make an evaluation of the facts.

But before their advice is followed it is worthwhile recalling that detailed knowledge not infrequently leads to hairsplitting.

The results vary, depending which expert has done the counting. Take, for instance, the disparity in East-West missiles with a range of less than 1,000km, or 625 miles.

The Bonn Defence Ministry recently estimated that the Warsaw Pact had 1,370 to Nato's 386, whereas the London Institute of Strategic Studies reached the reassuring conclusion that the gap was a mere 1,039 to 960.

The MBFR Vienna troop-cut talks are in deadlock mainly because the two sides have run aground in their estimates of respective manpower and numbers of main battle tanks and combat aircraft.

Having been unable to agree on terms of reference by which estimates were undertaken, they logically failed to agree in the number they arrived at.

Yet Western experts have often lamented that the Soviet Union was not prepared to yield one iota in these algebra exercises and obstinately insisted on its definition of parity.

Now Moscow is willing to reduce its front-line manpower (on this at least there can be no dispute). Western pundits are still reluctant to admit that Mr Brezhnev's unilateral move will make the slightest difference.

The Kremlin has hitherto defended its military potential in Central Europe to the last decimal point. Is the withdrawal of 20,000 men to be dismissed with a mere flick of the thumb across a slide rule?

The Soviet leader's declaration deserves serious consideration, especially the offer he makes subject to a condition.



In lighter vein

President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France (left) in a light moment with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt during the French leader's visit to Bonn. (Photo: Sven Simon)

True, the Soviet Union is only prepared to reduce the number of its medium-range missiles (the ones that worry Western Europe) on condition that Nato undertakes not to build comparable missiles of its own.

But this is the first time the Kremlin has even been prepared to discuss its potential in this sector, and negotiability was what Nato hoped to accomplish by deciding this December to go ahead with plans to build medium-range missiles.

So is it just a propaganda bid aimed at pre-empting the West's position? There are sure to be Kremlin hawks who reckon Mr Brezhnev's offer is an extremely dangerous concession to the West.

The West should not underestimate

the Soviet leader's success in overruling his hawks on this point. Mr Brezhnev's offer may be a one-off, once-only, never-to-be-repeated bid. It could be an opportunity the West cannot afford to miss.

Hans Werner Kettenbach
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 October 1979)

Apel pulls no punches over defence

Bonn Defence Minister Hans Apel has always favoured plain speaking. He calls a spade a spade and doesn't beat around the bush. He was certainly true to his reputation in Washington.

He was straight to the point about what Bonn and America's other European allies expect: Congressional ratification of the Salt II terms negotiated by President Carter and the Kremlin as soon as possible.

Congress, especially the Senate, is dragging its feet on Salt II. It remains to be seen when it will reach a final decision, let alone which way the vote will go.

The outcome is uncertain despite the confidence exuded by Gerhard Schröder, chairman of the Bundestag foreign affairs committee.

It is certainly not a feeling of confidence shared by Herr Apel.

President Carter's position has long been one of patent weakness, and his loss of authority has unduly strengthened the hand of influential Senators.

So it was only right for the Bonn Defence Minister to point out on the spot to the men who currently hold the whip hand in Washington how Europe feels.

Europe is worried by the delay and fears the repercussions of a Salt failure. America's partners are dependent in their plans and decisions on what the United States decides. They must also be

Continued on page 2



The Federal Republic of Germany's Defence Minister, Hans Apel (left) welcomed to Washington by the American Defence Secretary, Harold Brown. (Photo: dpa)

■ POLITICS

CDU gains, but election confirms old pattern



The Christian Democratic Union strengthened its position slightly in the North Rhine-Westphalia local elections.

But the changes were so small that the poll merely confirmed the distribution of political power as it has been in the *Land* for more than a decade.

Before the election, the CDU was a little apprehensive because it was not known what effect on public opinion the rally appearances of the shadow chancellor, Franz-Josef Strauss, had had.

The relief after the election was great. The CDU had outstripped the Social Democrats still further.

CDU sceptics who spoke of disorientation among their own ranks were proved wrong. Though Franz-Josef Strauss' appearance at rallies did not have a noticeably positive effect, it also did not adversely affect the election.

SPD losses were average, although Johannes Rau, North Rhine-Westphalia's SPD chairman and prime minister, failed to achieve the election target and make his party the strongest. Even for the SPD things do not take care of themselves, as was borne out in the election.

The Free Democrats are obviously deeply disappointed. Instead of achieving the hoped-for 8 per cent, they dropped to 6.5 per cent. In some major cities, as in Aachen and Oberhausen, they were wiped out altogether.

The FDP and its chairman, Horst Riemer, had made an all-out effort to appear as environment-conscious as possible. But the electorate failed to reward this. Committed environmentalists voted for one of the truly environment-conscious citizens' initiatives rather than the FDP.

For the rest, the political dispute that has just come to an end in North Rhine-Westphalia was typical of classical municipal elections. The campaign was

not influenced by national or international issues. All that mattered were local affairs.

The outcome is marked by polarisation. The strongest effects came from community issues, convincing personalities, new faces and a voters' initiative with élan. Where citizens' initiatives had their own candidates they achieved considerable success even though the "others" had not even 1 per cent across the board.

Major cities such as Münster and Bielefeld will now have environmentalists in their councils. Westphalia's small town of Ahaus, earmarked as an interim dump for nuclear waste, gave 25 per cent of its votes to the "greens".

On the other hand, Kalkar, the site of a fast breeder reactor and the demonstrations that go with it, reacted differently. There, the CDU even managed to win several percentage points.

The citizens' initiatives and the "greens" not only attracted FDP voters but also SPD and CDU followers. They were most effective where they pursued concrete local objectives. Non-local "greens", operating only with slogans, failed to impress.

Some of these groupings said from the very beginning that they would not stand in *Länder* and national elections. As a result it is impossible to draw conclusions for future elections from the North Rhine-Westphalia outcome.

The SPD has lost considerably in some of the major cities. In Düsseldorf, the *Land* capital, the CDU moved into the Rathaus as the strongest party and will provide the mayor. In Cologne, the SPD managed to maintain its majority by a fraction of a percentage point.

The FDP, too, which has always been fairly strong in Cologne, fell behind.

Hagen, Mülheim on the Ruhr and Bochum also dealt a blow to the SPD, though its safe majority was preserved.

All this should make the SPD think. On the other hand, the CDU also suffered losses in its strongholds, as in the Eifel, the Sauerland and cities like Paderborn.

The 70 per cent turnout can only be termed moderate, especially in the big cities. But taking into account that it was a lovely Sunday and that this might have induced 5 per cent to picnic instead of voting, the turnout boils down to average.

Though North Rhine-Westphalia's municipal elections showed neither a uniform nor a sensational trend, it was still a good election. The citizens gave the parties something to think about.

Wolfram Köhler

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 October 1979)

Free Democrat chief in surprise move

Horst-Ludwig Riemer, leader of the North Rhine-Westphalia Free Democrats, has always been known for spontaneous non-conformism.

This reputation would, at first glance, appear to be supported by his statement favouring a continuation of the *Land* coalition with the Social Democrats after the Assembly elections next year.

The outcome of the local elections in North Rhine-Westphalia hardly justifies Herr Riemer's committing himself at this stage for the new *Land* Assembly.

His statement is also surprising because the Free Democrats have in the past few months rarely skipped an opportunity of chafing their coalition partner.

Herr Riemer not only risks being told that it was obvious now that the FDP was tied to the SPD come what may; he also risks creating the impression that now already wants to pin down his party on the coalitions issue to be decided at the January FDP congress.

But this could very well be what motivated Herr Riemer. His position has for some time been threatened by competitors who are flirting with the possibility of a change in coalition partner. This group has been active lately in Düsseldorf where the FDP cannot evade the question of a new coalition with the CDU, the winner in the local elections.

This could provide an explanation for Horst-Ludwig Riemer's latest surprise move. He wanted to stop a trend that would lead the FDP towards the CDU and away from Herr Riemer.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 October 1979)

Nuclear waste issue boosts environment group

municipal election above all. The poor (70 per cent) turnout is noteworthy. The reason for it will cause the party brass some headaches.

Though CDU, SPD and even the FDP expressed their satisfaction with the outcome, the CDU had the most reason to be satisfied. Its position has been somewhat strengthened. By the same token, the SPD's losses were so marginal that they are unlikely to be unduly worried.

Not so the FDP. North Rhine-Westphalia's FDP Chairman Horst-Ludwig Riemer has every reason to be concerned about the losses which induced him over-hastily to announce that, now particularly, his party would form a coalition with the SPD after the spring *Land* Assembly election.

There is yet another question: Was this local election not a test for the 1980 *Land* Assembly and Bundestag elections after all?

Especially for the Bundestag, North Rhine-Westphalia will play a major role in deciding over victory or defeat. CDU circles have certainly uttered a noticeable sigh of relief, while the SPD's and the FDP's secret hopes do not seem to have materialised. Contrary to these hopes, the appearance at rallies of shadow chancellor Franz-Josef Strauss has neither harmed the CDU/CSU nor has it benefited the SPD/FDP.

So, was this a test after all?

Hans Stollhans

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 2 October 1979)

Local poll no yardstick for Bundestag

The meshing of municipal, *Land* and federal politics precludes our viewing individual elections by themselves. Even so, we must distinguish between municipal elections in particular as heavily affected by local peculiarities.

As a result, a voter who in a national election might be a firm follower of one party will not base his local decision on the duel of the giants but on such issues as the construction of kindergartens, roads or garbage dumps.

This makes it obvious that North Rhine-Westphalia's local elections are not to be seen as a test case for the 1980 Bundestag election.

Franz-Josef Strauss' local policy motivated participation in campaign rallies in the Ruhr area, which many have interpreted as aimed at national politics, has not had as much effect on the North Rhine-Westphalia elections as observers had expected.

The relatively low turnout is also as proof that it is inadmissible to compare local elections with those for the Bundestag where the turnout can reach 90 per cent.

The elections brought only slight changes. Losses in one city were offset by gains in another. Essentially, the two major parties retained their strong positions while the FDP, which seldom does well with a high turnout, was still unable to achieve any gains.

The poor performance of the environmental "greens" must not gloss over the fact that in many instances where the established parties have been too far in matters of the environment, they themselves promoted special environmentalist groupings. This lent the 30 September election the character of a genuine Rathaus election.

In the small town of Ahaus, earmarked as an interim nuclear waste dump, an independent voters' community got 25 per cent, out-performing even the SPD. The local elections leave it entirely open how the May *Land* Assembly election in North Rhine-Westphalia and the autumn 1980 Bundestag election will go.

The *Land* SPD will be satisfied about the unproblematic transition from Prime Minister Heinz Kühn to his successor, Johannes Rau. Opposition leader Heinrich Köppler, on the other hand, will interpret the outcome of the election as a confirmation that prospects for his intended leap into the *Land* premiership, have in no way deteriorated.

FDP's Horst-Ludwig Riemer, lately under fire from his own party, has hardly gained more scope for internal party disputes.

The communists, who remain on the city council of Bottrop, suffered losses in most other instances. This shows that the big noise made by the German Communist Party is out of proportion to its public appeal.

The CDU's performance has also been watched with great attention in Munich where the view prevails that Franz-Josef Strauss' appearance in the Ruhr area has not harmed the CDU as has been claimed by some.

Bodo Schulte

(Nordwest-Zeitung, 1 October 1979)

■ THE LAW

Lawyers, judges against stronger anti-terrorism legislation

The majority of lawyers and judges in this country are against further draconian anti-terrorist laws. At the same time they do not want any relaxation of the anti-terrorist laws now in force.

This was evident at the German Judges' Conference to mark the 70th anniversary of the German Association of Judges in Essen, attended by numerous prominent politicians, as the strong contingent of uniformed and plain-clothes policemen underlined.

President Carstens was there, as were Bonn Minister of Justice Vogel, Ernst Benda, President of the Federal Constitutional Court and Prosecutor General Kurt Rebmann.

Ever since the terrorist threat emerged some years ago, judges and lawyers have often had police escorts for their own protection. The main subject under discussion at the conference was terrorism.

Inevitably two other very important subjects — the limits of income redistribution and social policy and efforts to reduce judges' work burden by keeping trivial cases out of court — receded into the background.

Are the anti-terrorist laws sufficient for the future, could they be relaxed or abolished in the foreseeable future, do they need to be extended? The 700 participants at the conference discussed the pros and cons in detail and at length. As



befits lawyers, they debated the issues dispassionately and objectively. This was underlined when one judge said he was astonished that a previous speaker had used the stylistically and contentually dubious phrase "taking out of circulation" in connection with the question of preventive custody for terrorists.

Bonn Minister of Justice Vogel told the conference that the present anti-terrorist laws were adequate and the government was not planning any further laws. The following day Prosecutor General Rebmann basically agreed with the government line. His calls for other measures including the possibility of an "indictment in advance" were less far-reaching than what many had expected from the Prosecutor-General. He cannot be content with the fact that the security situation in the Federal Republic of Germany has been somewhat defused as a whole and that some terrorists of the "older generation" are tired and "want out."

Rebmann and his staff's main duty is to prevent further terrorist activities. In this context, the views presented by the Prosecutor General in his talk and the following discussion were very moderate — a liberal Prosecutor General

calling only for what was absolutely necessary.

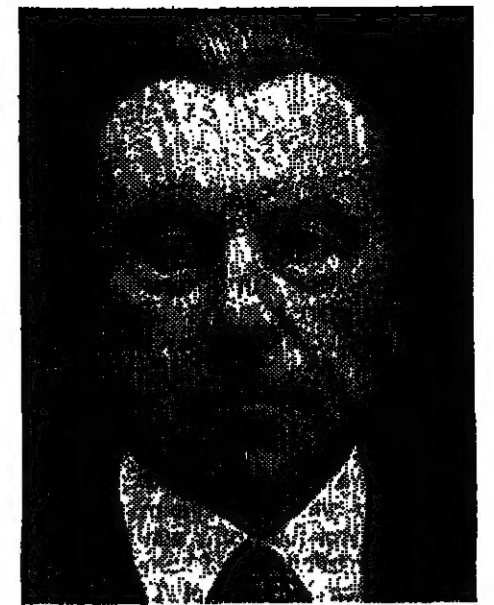
Perhaps Herr Rebmann's words were also addressed to those who are contemplating giving up terrorism. At any rate, Rebmann met with a very positive response to his moderate views from the majority of lawyers and judges at the conference.

The legal principle whereby an accused cannot be tried for the same crime twice makes life very difficult for the State Prosecutor in the fight against terrorists and their helpers. For example the prosecution may be able to prove that a suspect had false papers and a weapon but may not have sufficient evidence to prove that the suspect took part in a bank raid, injured or murdered someone.

This evidence may come to light after a year or so but by then it cannot be used against a suspect accused of membership of a terrorist conspiracy. An "indictment in advance" would be a possible solution here. It would speed up trials and mean that terrorists could not benefit from the state prosecutor's difficulties in accumulating evidence.

The Prosecutor General's remark that there was no need for changes in the law introducing preventive custody for first-time terrorist offenders and a raising of the maximum prison sentence to above the present limit of 20 years caused surprise among some lawyers and judges. Rebmann said that further experience would need to be gathered before preventive custody for first-time offenders was introduced.

Prosecutor Otto Horn of Erlangen and Friedrich Bethke, a judge at the Bavarian Supreme Court, disagreed with Rebmann on this point, as indeed Bavarian lawyers often expressed opinions differing from the majority: "Gathering experience must not mean that something must happen before anything is done. Even the threat of preventive custody could reduce willingness to risk such crimes." The Bavarians and those from other



Kurt Rebmann
(Photo: Sven Simon)

Länder who shared their opinions failed to win the day in Essen. The large majority supported the Prosecutor General and was against an extension of preventive custody, though it did not go along with Dortmund lawyer Wilhelm Krekler, who, in his critical analysis from the viewpoint of a defence lawyer, called for the dropping of the anti-terrorist laws. ("Parliament must now introduce the phase of consolidation. The path parliament, the legal authorities and courts are pursuing now is dangerous. Milder means could have been used to protect legal principles.")

A certain amount of malaise about the contact ban law was detectable in Essen but the majority regarded it as a necessary evil that should not be abolished or in any way relaxed. Despite defence lawyer Krekler's persuasive argument that unimpeded and unsupervised talks between the defendant and his counsel were absolutely necessary for an ideal defence, he and others of his opinion could not move the majority of those present to call for the abolition or relaxation of the contact ban law. The scepticism of judges and lawyers was evident here: terrorists and their accomplices among left-wing lawyers have so long abused our liberal legal system that at the moment there is little inclination to repeal measures designed solely to combat terrorists.

Siegfried Löffler
(Der Tagespiegel, 28 September 1979)

Supreme Court criticised over Weimar role



In a speech to mark the 100th anniversary of the setting up of the Reichsgericht in Leipzig, West German Supreme Court President Gerd Pfeiffer slammed the shabby role played by this court in the judging and sentencing of political crimes even during the Weimar Republic before Hitler came to power and brought the courts into line with Nazi doctrine.

Pfeiffer could, as is usually done on such occasions, have concentrated mainly on the undisputedly positive aspects of this court.

Pfeiffer certainly did his legal colleagues, the general public and historical truth a great service by describing without mincing words how the Reichsgericht dug its own grave even before the race laws and the emergency decrees of

the Third Reich. The Reichsgericht had adopted national socialist legal thinking in its practices before the Nazis came to power — voluntarily, without state compulsion. The reason for this was the authoritarian and nationalistic thinking of judges with obvious right-wing sympathies.

Unfortunately, the President of the Supreme Court failed to point out that even today a number of courts are showing a right-wing bias. By this we do not mean the judges in Karlsruhe but courts who have to pass sentence in the first instance on so-called matters of the protection of the state. The Supreme Court, which as a Court of Appeal has to rely on the account of the facts established in the lower courts, can only counter this latent development to a limited extent. It would perhaps therefore be better if the Karlsruhe judges were again to become the first and final instance for the judgement of such crimes.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 October 1979)

Politics at first hand

Detailed information is what you need to hold your own in debate about politics and international affairs. Detailed information must back up your political viewpoint. AUSSENPOLITIK provides this information you need at first hand. It is edited by:

Heinrich Bechtoldt
Herbert von Borgh
Walter Hallstein
Kurt Georg Kiesinger
Klaus Rittler
Hans Rothfels
Walter Scheel
Cario Schmid
Heinrich Schmidt
Richard von Weizsäcker

Up-to-the-minute contributions, analyses and information on all aspects of foreign policy brief you swiftly and reliably on political affairs. You gain an insight into context and background. AUSSENPOLITIK — a year's subscription costs DM 60 plus postage.

INTERPRESS Uebersee-Verlag

Schoene Aussicht 23 • 2000 Hamburg 76 • Fed. Rep. of Germany

Farmers' role changes, but the urban suspicion continues

Thanksgiving (in Germany on 30 September) is not what it used to be — neither in the city nor in the country.

Instead of rejoicing over the cornucopia of plenty, we think of the famine in many parts of the world. It is on such a day that we in Europe refuse to understand why we should groan under an over-supply of foodstuffs while the people of Bangladesh die of hunger.

And when thinking of Thanksgiving we have in mind the progressive destruction of our environment, the pollution of rivers and lakes and of the air we breathe rather than our farmers' huge output.

Many city dwellers think of farmers in terms of a catenarious bunch that pays no taxes and asks for ever larger subsidies.

But this is a distorted picture. There is so much talk of the successes of German industry although the farming community's efforts to increase productivity are not only comparable but in many instances greater. Those who consider farming a backward part of our economy are wrong. Germany's farm output ranks at the very top of the European Community.

Even so, many city people still view the farmer with suspicion. Union demands on behalf of steelworkers or postal employees are taken for granted. Not so the farmers' demands for better incomes.

True, they have come up with some exaggerated demands — but then who does not go overboard when it comes to money?

What we do not understand is that many farmers who earn as much as or more than a highly skilled industrial worker pay no taxes. We also do not understand why the bounty of subsidies

equally benefits the wealthy and the poor among farmers.

Owing to their own hard work and to ample government assistance, our farmers are no longer the underprivileged of society — and they know it.

But urban suspicion and scepticism in the face of farmers' protests do not explain the misunderstandings that exist between city and country. The reasons go far deeper. They have to do with a change in social and political conditions.

The farming community has long lost its age-old image of being the provider for the nation. Our livelihood does not depend on agricultural production but on the quality and output of our industry and on exports.

There was a time when the prosperity of the nation depended on the harvest. Today, the prosperity of farmers depends on industrial output.

And a good harvest is not necessarily a blessing today. Preachers who still view a good harvest as proof of God's benevolence should think again.

Today, a good harvest with its surpluses can spell disaster for farmers. They frequently find it more economical to leave their fruit unpicked than to harvest and then dump.

We have all seen protesting farmers dump parts of their harvest along Europe's roads and let tons of milk seep into ditches.

All this shows that it is not shortage but surfeit that makes the farmer protest.

Our harvests are too plentiful, and this is a greater disaster for our industrialised and export-oriented Europe than are hail and drought. No city dweller need fear that a bad harvest in his own country will lead to famine. By the same token, no farmer trusts the handed-down

view that a plentiful harvest means money in the bank.

The farmer's importance diminished as our urban society became dominated by industry.

Not only has the industrial age changed the way of work, but also the ideas and attitudes of those doing such work. Many city dwellers no longer know what it feels like to have earth under their feet because they walk on concrete, on wall-to-wall carpets or tiles, and metropolitan children who have never seen a cow are no rarity.

Industry with all its 'synthetics' has outstripped the growth processes of nature. Our fibres and fabrics are 'man-made', and they are 'better' and 'more durable' than nature's raw materials which need time to mature. To produce synthetics is a matter of revolutions per minute while a cow still needs 900 days before producing the first drop of milk.

Life in industrialised conurbations, with its changed attitude towards the process of work and the material we work with, has led to an estrangement between city and country.

There are still many farmers who feel that the city dweller does not "really" work. But there are also many urbanites who view the farmer as a backward peasant. They see this idea confirmed when they visit the country and see a horse or cow-drawn hay wagon. But they are wrong because they view as typical something that is only the last remnant of a highly mechanised business.

Even the most well meant thanksgiving speeches cannot return the farmer to the position he once held. But we owe them no more and no less than we owe the man at the assembly line.

Bernd Nellessen
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 September 1979)

The case in favour of surplus food sales

Asked whether he did not think that the European Community's agricultural policy disastrously resembled the East Bloc's planned economy, Dr Helmut von Verschuer, a senior official of the EC Agricultural Authority, said wryly: "If this were so, we would not have to worry about surpluses in Western Europe."

And if this were so, Community farmers would have no incentive to produce and our silos would remain as empty as those in the East.

There is little to be said to this except the fact that even the East Bloc is now making use of such market economy tenets.

EC representatives who visited Budapest recently were told by local functionaries that it was unnecessary for the East Bloc countries to step up their butter production since they can buy all the butter they need cheaply from the EEC.

A couple of weeks ago, the EC parliament in Strasbourg was told by Agriculture Commissioner Gundelach that another 100,000 tons of butter at the cheap world market price will have to be sold to the East Bloc this year. The cost to the Community will be DM600 m.

This butter is bought from Europe's farmers and creameries at the high Community price and then sold to the

East at one-third of cost. Needless to say, the difference has to be paid by the taxpayer into the Brussels Agricultural Fund.

"Should such sales to the communists be stopped?" many people want to know.

Commissioner Gundelach says that the East should not be treated differently from any other country because the principle is to sell EC butter at these low prices to anybody who wants to buy it and thus help reduce our surpluses.

These give-away sales, he said, were still the cheapest way of getting rid of surpluses, because storage or conversion into animal feed would be even more expensive.

The Strasbourg debate has made it clear that most Euro-MPs are satisfied with our agricultural market. The farmers of the Community are largely happy with it and it is therefore perfectly understandable why the agriculture ministers of the Nine made it clear three years ago that the principles on which this policy is based needed no change;

all that required change was the application.

The Community's agricultural policy will eat up about DM27 bn next year, two-thirds of the EC budget.

The principles are sound. They are based on free competition among all EC farmers through unhampered trade with agricultural produce throughout the Community. Community preference (this ensures that the public consumes primarily Community foodstuffs) and common financial responsibility. All Community taxpayers have to foot the bill if unsellable produce has to be bought from the farmers at guaranteed prices.

But free competition as a principle of the "Green EC" does not fully apply because prices kept artificially high lead to increased production. This is one of the reasons why much of the surplus comes from Germany. The Brussels EC Commission has demanded time and again — so far unsuccessfully — that this system be changed and that prices for surpluses be arrested for several years.

Concern over prospect of poor harvests

Poor harvest prospects world-wide are causing growing concern, says Dreesmann, secretary-general of the German World Hunger Fund, told the year's congress of the Fund.

The UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) estimates that the world harvest in 1979/80 will drop by 6 per cent, to 416 m tons and the coarse grain harvest by 5 per cent to 727 m tons.

The rice situation is still unclear. Herr Dreesmann expects a 3 per cent drop to 370 m tons.

Shortfall in the grain harvest will affect primarily the Soviet Union which has hiked grain prices and freight costs through its vast purchases.

The grain imports of the Third World, estimated at 72 m tons in 1979/80, will become considerably more expensive.

To make matters worse, Development



Aid Minister Rainer Offergeld says that the oil price increases have had a disastrous effect on the poorest of the developing countries.

The oil bill is expected to rise from 28 to 40 billion dollars this year.

This development, he said, cannot be offset by increased development aid of the industrialised countries, this having risen in 1978 by just under four per cent to 18.3 billion dollars.

Only a sensible price policy and more development aid by the Opec countries could provide noticeable relief. But that aid, the minister said, fell by one billion dollars to 4.7 billion last year — and not because Iran, which was never very active in this field, has fallen away as a donor.

Hans-J. Mahnke
(Die Welt, 28 September 1979)

Fears that higher heating costs have cut into shopping money

Retailers are afraid that the increased cost of heating is coming out of the consumers' spending budget.

Chairman of the German co-operative movement, co op Zentrale Ag, Bernd Otto, says that the trend towards price-conscious shopping has once more become pronounced.

In its "Observations on the Start of the Season" the trade journal Textil-Wirtschaft says that the retail trade has corrected its price structure. Medium price goods have gone up while high price ones have been arrested at their present level or even reduced.

Moreover, the journal writes, it has become obvious that the trade is trying to present a more favourable price structure to the consumer. Very pricey goods have disappeared from the windows and been replaced by products appealing to a larger number of potential buyers.

After the trading-up of the past few years, retailers are now trading down. Having polished up their image by offering more expensive goods and better quality, redecorating the shops and hiring additional and better sales staff, retailers are now pinning their hopes again on bargains.

But what about the customers? Are they once more looking for specials? And is there a change in trend in the offing?

The consumers must doubtless familiarise themselves with new economic exigencies. The heating bills have gone up, as has automotive fuel; and so have prices in general. The portion of income available for consumption has decreased.

Hubertus Tassar, spokesman of the Retailers' Association, says: "Salary increases this year cannot compensate for higher prices."

Thomas Schlier of the Bonn Consumers' Work Group (AGV) says that it still remains to be seen where the loss of buying power due to oil price increases and inflation will have its greatest effect. All he considers certain is that consumers become more price conscious in such situations.

Comments Herr Tassar: "The first half of the year was basically tolerable. But the second most important part (due to the Christmas business) is likely to be marked by restraint on the part of buyers."

But neither the trade nor consumer

representatives speak of a change in trend, perhaps because they fear that the lethargic upswing could fizzle.

Walter Deuss, chairman of the Karstadt AG department store chain told shareholders recently that "willingness to consume depends on the consumers' economic position and their psychological attitude towards the future."

And the co op's Bernd Otto voices his concern over "talking the upswing into the ground."

All that remains to retailers and manufacturers is hope. This is primarily kindled by gradually diminishing automobile sales. It was primarily the car fever of the past few years that troubled sellers of furniture, overcoats, TV sets, carpets and wallpaper.

But drastic additional heating bills presented by landlords and the filling up of homeowners' oil tanks are not seen by retailers as weakening the buying power because, as consumer spokesman Thomas Schlier put it, such bills are not paid from the monthly income but from the savings account.

The consumers' own views of the future nourish the hopes of the trade. Though savings in the first quarter of 1979 rose to 14.5 per cent of income (from 13.0 per cent in the last quarter of 1978) the consumers' uncertainty soon gave way to a certain optimism: in the second quarter savings dropped again to 13.9 per cent, the average level of 1977 and 1978.

In the second quarter of 1975, at the height of apprehension-influenced savings, the quota rose to 17.7 per cent. The trade's hopes of a sustained up-

swing in the consumer goods sector is confirmed by a study of the Munich Institute for Economic Research which has just presented its report on the state of the retail trade. The change of trend that became apparent in June and July did not continue in August.

On the contrary, sales rose by a nominal 7 per cent (5 per cent in real terms). Business prospects, says one of the 160 pundits, have thus improved again.

The forecast for the second half of the year says that there will be no sustained growth nor will there be a slump. The stagnating sales in June and the drop in July of almost 2 per cent are seen as attributable to the bad weather rather than to any change in the economic conditions.

And yet, midsummer could easily have adversely affected consumer spending due the increase of VAT from 12 to 13 per cent as of 1 July.

According to the institute, this was the first VAT increase that the trade passed on entirely to the buyers.

Says an institute spokesman: "The trade is now much less in a position to absorb this tax."

AGV spokesman Schlier also finds that, as expected, the whole of the additional VAT was passed on to the consumer. But there were no price increases on top of this due to heavy competition.

Even if the consumers come to terms with an inflation rate unlikely to fall below the 5 per cent mark, some branches of the consumer goods industry must expect diminished demand for the rest of the year. This applies to furniture and other household goods, the

automobile trade and the whole of the consumer goods sector. Replacement needs are only satisfied when absolutely necessary.

Textil-Wirtschaft says in its September interim balance sheet: "If it was not only the weather there must have been more to it." By interviewing the trade, Textil-Wirtschaft found out more: All types of overcoats and men's and women's suits were poor sellers, and even young fashions were termed "lame" by some retailers.

The journal concludes that the wardrobes are still full and that very trendy clothing has not proved very attractive by and large.

Even the Christmas business holds little promise. The number of consumers who shop for Christmas in the time immediately preceding it is diminishing. As a result, the whole Christmas business has been steadily losing its former importance in the past few years. November and December sales are still about 4 per cent higher than those from January to October. But in the mid-sixties Christmas turnover was 6.7 per cent higher, the increase dropping to 5.6 per cent in 1970.

Though the trade is still valiantly optimistic for the second half of 1979, many a hope has been given up for 1980. Retailer fear that increased energy and raw materials prices will not show their effect until then.

Buyers of major German mail order houses must order now for 1980, and they will have to put up with price increases of up to 10 per cent. The trade expects inflation to gather momentum.

But both trade and manufacturers see a silver lining for next year. The diminishing automobile boom will release money for other consumption and the envisaged tax relief could — even if it does not become effective in 1980 — improve the consumers' mood.

Gunhild Freese
(Die Zeit, 28 September 1979)

Consumer body seeks later closing hours

unable to do any comparative shopping and frequently she discovers that she has been given rotten fruit or vegetables. Due to lack of time, she is unable to exchange the goods and the rotten food winds up in the garbage.

The DVS slogan for the drive is "Fight Stress" and it is supported by the Cologne Medical Association.

The whole thing has been a god-send for the Free Democrat Party which has had concrete plans for model experiments lying in its bottom drawer a long time.

A nation-wide pilot project is to help solve the question how shops can keep open until 8.30 or 9 p.m. once or twice a week while keeping their overall weekly opening hours unchanged. In return for the evening opening, the retail trade is to be permitted to close its doors during slack hours. The pilot scheme is to be limited in time and subsequently evaluated.

Only then will it be possible to counter trade union and retailers' arguments that longer opening hours in the evening are unproductive.

FDP spokesman on consumer affairs Helmut Hausmann says that anybody opposing pilot schemes opposes change in general.

The project will of course require that the Act be amended by the inclusion of an experiment clause.

The Consumer Association also wants to change the social position of the sales staff by reducing unpaid overtime and reducing shift work, which is detrimental to the family.

Studies in Berlin, said Herr Hausmann, have shown that women are quite prepared to work in the evening for additional pay. The idea is to attract sales staff wanting part-time jobs.

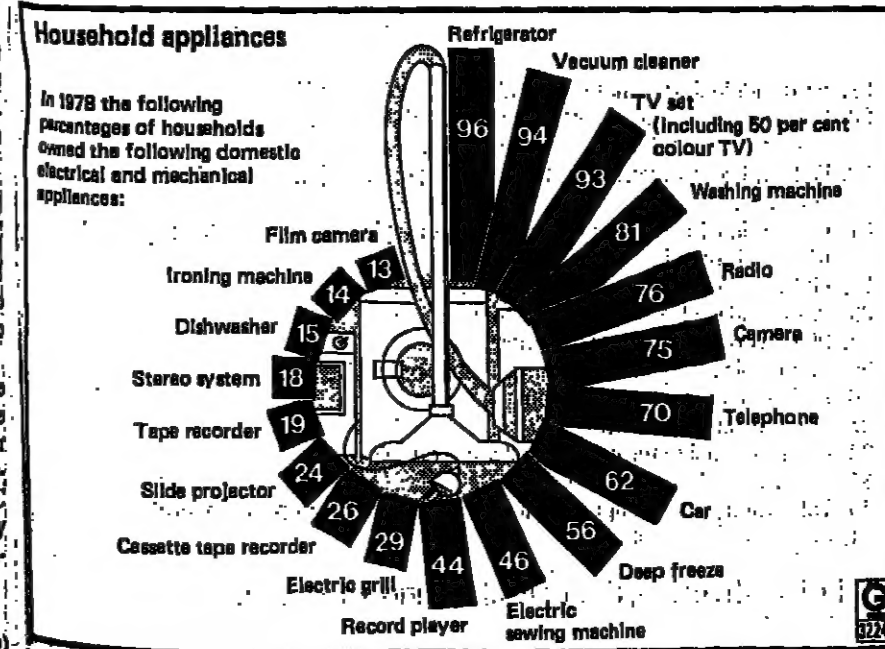
The rigid fronts in matters of closing hours have now become more flexible.

According to Herr Hausmann, the objective now is to find a less rigid solution. After all, Belgians, the French, the Swiss, Italians and the Dutch have long been able to shop in the evenings and their experience with extended shopping hours has been positive.

Even human contacts in the widest sense would profit from reforms. City centres that used to be dead after working hours would once more be populated. This would also provide an opportunity to meet acquaintances on the street and to get together for a chat. What is the use of spending billions to develop shopping centres that are dead for much of the time.

Moreover, consumers would like to be able to take their time in the evening shopping for larger and more expensive items, because this would enable them to have the whole weekend free for family activities or jaunts into the country.

Barbara Frandsen
(Kölnische Nachrichten, 29 September 1979)



Satellite will eliminate most TV reception problems

In about three years' West Germany will have a radio and TV satellite of its own to relay programmes straight to the consumer.

Ground, relay and booster stations will no longer be needed. From its vantage point in space the satellite will reach every home in the country (and a fair number of neighbouring countries too).

Many problems remain to be solved but the satellite is sure to be launched. Too much research and development has gone into it for the project to be abandoned at this stage.

Viewers will know from TV weather forecasts what satellite pictures look like. Those of us who got up in the early hours of the morning to listen to (or watch) Muhammad Ali in the ring will appreciate the potential of communications satellites.

They can relay sound and vision from one end of the earth to the other, but that is nothing new. What is new is the generation of direct satellites (for direct reception).

The idea is that any viewer or listener whose set is hooked up to a special aerial can tune in direct to the satellite broadcast.

In the past, satellites have been equipped with such low power sources that the receiver virtually had to be a ground booster station because such large and expensive aerials would otherwise have been required.

In future (the near future, too) this will be different. We will be able to tune in to programmes broadcast directly from the transmitter satellite.

The satellite, to which programmes must naturally first be relayed from the studio, will be stationed at a seemingly fixed point 36km (22 1/2 miles) above the equator.

Jumbo solar collectors will supply the power needed to transmit sound and vision to a section of the globe. So basically it is just an extension and improvement of the transmission system and not a new medium.

But the new satellite will definitely be built and launched because it will be able to relay more radio and TV (whether or not that is a blessing is another matter) and provide employment for the aerospace and electronics industries.

Using earthbound frequencies as currently available and allocated, a nationwide fourth TV channel is out of the question. Cable or satellite are the only way to increase the range of options viewers may be offered.

Satellite TV is inexpensive in comparison with the installation costs of cable TV. Richard W. Dill, the satellite expert of ARD, the West German broadcasting authority, reckons it will only take DM500m to set up the entire satellite system.

A further advantage of the satellite is that it will cover the entire country at

one fell swoop, including isolated farmhouses and city homes on the wrong side of skyscraper blocks that interfere with signals from the nearest earth-bound transmitter.

Even so, satellite-TV in its new guise will not be inexpensive. Subscribers will have to invest between DM800 and DM1,500 in a new aerial, meaning extra expenditure totalling billions of Deutschmarks.

And the attraction is not just more local programmes but also reception of foreign programmes, since one satellite can ply enormous sections of the globe with radio and TV.

The prospect delighted and entranced visionaries, engineers and political idealists in the 60s. They foresaw special channels for the UN and Unesco, a Euro-channel for the EEC and a choice of programmes from all five continents for viewers.

There was also educational TV, health programmes and technological know-how that could be supplied to the Third World via satellite radio and TV.

But at sessions of UN and Unesco commissions it turned out that even Western countries were only partly interested in a completely free flow of information and communication.

The Warsaw Pact states wanted to make transmission of any foreign programmes from space dependent on ap-

proval by the government of countries with reception potential.

Third World representatives were less alarmed at the prospect of alienation and non-stop bombardment by propaganda from both East and West.

Agreement was reached in 1970, resolution that left considerable room for interpretation.

In 1977 a much more pragmatic approach was made from another angle with the emphasis on technical agreement to take the sting out of the national issues.

At a satellite conference in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, each country was to be entitled to broadcast to its territory. No-one was to be given a veto over others.

West Germany was allotted five channels. So, for instance, was Austria.

The Geneva conference decided down satellite location, aerial angle, transmitter power, these being factors that influence the size of area that can be served.

Using a 90-cm (18-inch) dish, the West German satellite will link programmes that can be received in Flensburg to Milan and from Rome to Berlin.

Do we want it? This is still an academic question, since it is sure to be launched regardless. Manufacturers of the Bonn Research Ministry have received too much cash in the project off now.

Publications by the Bonn Government repeatedly conjure visions of the satellite falling behind in technological developments, yet West Germany has no

Continued on page 9

Women get a chance at the helm

Leselotte von Rantzau, owner of the Hamburg Deutsche Afrika-Linien and John T. Essberger shipping lines, has been very much a woman's woman in the running of her companies for the past seven years.

Hers are the only West German merchant ships where women trainees learn the trade to qualify as nautical officers and even take their master's ticket.

The first women captains have served as officers on board DAL freighters or Essberger tankers for several years now.

Frau von Rantzau has gone it alone for seven years. Now she has been joined by another Hamburg line, Frigga, which is a subsidiary of the Thyssen group.

On 1 October Captain Ulrike Münster, 24, signed on as Frigga's first woman nautical officer in Rotterdam on the 82,445-ton ore freighter Brage. Could this be the beginning of a trend? It certainly looks as though other West German lines are impressed by the Africa Line's experience with women officers.

To judge by a straw poll of leading German shipping lines they are starting to jettison their prejudices against the fair sex on the bridge.

The personnel manager of a large Hamburg line self-critically put it like this: "All our arguments against women as officers have been disproved. They are

not too weak physically. You can tell whether they will make good shipboard officer material."

"Seamen are prepared to take orders from women. Women don't upset the atmosphere on board and don't give rise to sex problems. Ships are not unsuitable for women by virtue of their outdated sanitation."

"All these arguments no longer hold water. Times have changed. Everyone on board has a cabin and a shower bath of his own."

Dr Nikolaus Rother of the Frigga Line says Frau Münster was signed on because her references and college record were outstanding. She also knew the ropes and had served on board ship in the past.

Having taken this first step Dr Rother now plans to go a stage further and argue the point on committees and working parties of the Shipowners' Association.

He can count on wholehearted support not only from Deutsche Afrika Linien but also from the association's president, Nikolaus Schöles of the F. Laeisz Line.

Herr Schöles reckons the breakthrough has now been made. He should know. Unnoticed by a wider public, the first two women trainee nautical engineers have been working on board Laeisz ships for the past 15 months.

Lucie Werner from Bad Dürheim is

serving on board the Protector, a bulk cargo freighter, while Esther Behr from Stuttgart is with the Sturmfels, a training ship. "They're both doing fine," he says.

Other lines' views on the prospect of hiring or training women as officers: Hapag-Lloyd: "We have enough personnel. But we are considering the idea and will come to a decision before long."

Slovan Neptun: "We have no objections in principle. If women were to apply we should be quite happy to consider them on their merits. I (Consul Willhöft of the board of directors) could well imagine it would be charming to have a woman captaining a ship in the Med."

Esso: "We take an extremely sceptical view. Not just because they are women but also because the work is hard, the journeys are long — and so is the length of time a crew has to stay together. Besides, seniority is sure to present problems. Women will find it harder than men to command respect."

Ahrens: "Basically we are not opposed to the idea. We simply haven't discussed it yet. It would depend on the individual."

Hamburg Süd: "We have no plans to experiment. We have enough male trainees out of work. Ten young men apply for every traineeship we have to offer. Besides, accommodation on board would present problems."

DDG Hansa: "We don't feel in any hurry. We have applicants in plenty. But in the early 80s lines will start hiring women to train as officers in any case because there will not be enough school-leavers available."

Shell: "Ulrike Münster had applied to Deutsche Shell and made a good impression. But, or so the company say, the groundwork had not been properly laid at the time she applied."

"We will shortly be interviewing prospective captains and crew again, and given the right qualifications and personality we would be prepared to give a woman (and ourselves) a chance of seeing how it works." Jürgen Dobert

(Die Welt, 27 September 1979)

First of new frigates is launched

Bremen, the first of six multi-purpose BF 122 frigates commissioned by the Bundesmarine, was launched at the Vulkan yard in Bremen on 27 September.

The six frigates (to be increased to a dozen in the long term) are regarded by the navy as a mainstay of North Sea defences in view of the growing Soviet naval threat.

- They are a combination of ship, electronics, arms and helicopters.
- They are designed to stay at sea in all weathers for long periods at a time.
- They are equipped to fight a potential enemy on the surface, underwater or in the air.

Armaments includes sea-to-sea and sea-to-air missiles: the Harpoon, with a range of 110km (70 miles), and the Sea Sparrow, with a range of 20km (12 miles).

The frigates also boast anti-sub armament and radar-controlled machine guns.

They also have two Sea Lynx helicopters on board to hunt and track down submarines.

They are the largest procurement programme ever undertaken by the Bundesmarine. Bremen's Vulkan shipyard, the main contractors, are sharing the contract with Howaldt of Kiel, Blohm + Voss of Hamburg, AG Weser of Bremen and Nordseewerke of Emden.

The missile frigate Bremen is due to be taken into service in autumn 1981. The other five will follow at intervals until the second quarter of 1984.

The F 122 frigate caused a political rumpus at one stage. The Social Democrats' working party on security affairs said it was "economically inadvisable, militarily useless and politically risky."

Christian Democratic defence spokesman Manfred Wörner replied that the frigate was not a naval prestige project but a bitter military necessity.

Hans-Jürgen Meyn

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 26 September 1979)

VERMEX

AGENCY AND CONSULTING FOR DELIVERY AND ERECTION

ESPEROU 22 - PAL FALIRON - ATHENS - GREECE

TELEX: 219807 ITEC Gr. Att: Schmitz 252

VERMEX will arrange to meet your plant and equipment construction export requirements by supplying the following materials in high grades and at competitive prices. Terms quoted fob or C + F to any destination specified. Let us know exactly what you want; we will quote without delay. If the items you need are not listed write anyway, we'll probably be able to make you an offer. For goods we supply we will be happy to quote, on an hourly basis, for supervisory staff to look after erection, installation or processing. We will also make you a quotation for erection complete. Don't hesitate to write if we might be who you need.

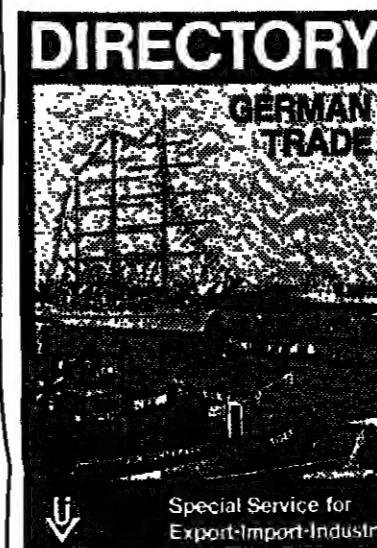
1. Delivery and erection of auxiliary equipment for industrial plant, size no object.
2. Delivery and erection of steel halls (any size), incl. roof and wall covering, with or without insulation.
3. Tanks, furnaces and boilers, all sizes, steel or stainless.
4. Transport installations or systems for all purposes.
5. Steel structures of all kinds and sizes.
6. 1-5 painted to any international standard.
7. Delivery and erection of any kind or size of industrial or construction insulation to European or West German (VDI 2055) standards.
8. All tubular steel systems and parts.
9. Plumbing pipes of all kinds.
10. PVC pipes to withstand pressures of 2% to 12% atmospheres, including parts.
11. Asbestos cement pipes, ditto.
12. Concrete drainpipes.
13. Irrigation and sprinkler installations, quick pipe seal, PVC or galvanised sheet metal.
14. All insulation material for heat-, cold- and soundproofing.
15. Polystyrene blocks or sheeting for invisible casing.
16. Sandwich panelling (for inside and out), made in any material, insulation and insulation thickness you require.
17. All roofing materials and protective course to keep out steam.
18. Blasting sand, scaffolding, cement, reinforcement wire mesh, Monier iron, concrete steel.
19. Corrugated asbestos cement sheeting, 6 mm thick, various lengths.
20. Flat asbestos cement sheeting, 5 mm to 12 mm thick, natural and coloured.
21. Corrugated polyester skylight sheeting to match 19.
22. Aluminium, galvanised and painted trapezoidal sheeting.
23. Aluminium, galvanised and painted flat sheet metal, in sheets or rolls.
24. Ventilation channels, steel, galvanised sheet metal or asbestos cement.
25. Doors, windows, gates in aluminium, wood, PVC or sheet metal.
26. Sliding and rolling gates to any size.
27. Air conditioning, simple or combined (cooling and heating).
28. Hanging ceilings in various materials and designs.
29. Bathroom and kitchen equipment, incl. all parts.
30. Wall and floor covering, in rolls or tiles; ceramic, marble, PVC, terrazzo and vinyl.
31. Cables in all sizes to any standard for laying above or under ground (detailed specification, please).
32. Light brackets and lamps to any size or design.
33. Plugs and sockets, switches and fuseboxes.
34. Plasterboard in various thicknesses.
35. Electronic immersion heaters, electric or gas boilers.
36. Mobile homes, with or without wheels.
37. Site huts in all sizes and designs.
38. Comprehensive furnishing, including curtains.
39. Communication equipment.
40. Telegraph poles, lampposts, in wood, steel or reinforced concrete.
41. Solar collectors, all sizes.

We specialise in 1-7, 36 and 37 and work mainly in North Africa, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW

TRADE DIRECTORY

GERMAN TRADE 1979/80
of Manufacturers, Exporters and Importers



Published Annually
Over 200 Pages

The complete directory of the most important German exporters and importers

- Over 3,000 German firms engaged in export and import. The addresses of the manufacturers are listed under product classifications.

- All Foreign Consulates in Germany.
- All Chambers of Commerce in Germany.
- Banks with Foreign Departments.
- Freight Forwarders.
- Technical Services and Consultants.
- Insurance Companies.

(All classifications in English.)

Price \$10.00 U.S.

(incl. package and airmail postage)

If you want to establish contacts with Germany, then you need the TRADE DIRECTORY

PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN

TRADE DIRECTORY · GERMANY
Schoene Aussicht 23, D-2000 Hamburg 76, W. Germany

Enclosed is payment for _____ volume(s) of the TRADE DIRECTORY · GERMANY

FIRM NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Continued from page 8

mated two-year lead over others in the technology required.

Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm of Munich and Hamburg have signed a contract with China to supply between 10 and 20 TV satellites. Negotiations with European countries are still under way.

Bonn plans to place its order at the end of this year, "bearing in mind that German industry's lead in international competition to build future telecommunications satellites is an important aspect."

So the German satellite is sure to start broadcasting from about 1983 on, but no-one is yet sure just what it will be transmitting.

Broadcasting authorities are equally worried at the prospect of falling by the wayside technologically if they fail to join the bandwagon. Neighbouring countries, they reckon, will certainly not be missing the opportunity.

Politicians have yet to frame any definite views on the use to which the country's five channels should be put. Bonn says the decision lies with state authorities in what, after all, is a Federal Republic.

Political parties and lobbies of one kind and another have not gone further than generalisations on the issue. They are still preoccupied with other media problems such as the future of Nord-

deutscher Rundfunk (NDR), cable TV or teletext systems.

Broadcasting authorities themselves suggest transmitting radio on two of the five channels. Each channel could accommodate eight nationwide radio programmes.

Each of the ten or so ARD corporations would be allotted a radio frequency. Deutschlandfunk would be given two or three. The remainder would be available for specialised output, such as music, educational, foreign language and current affairs.

ARD and ZDF (Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen, or Channel Two) would each have one of the other three channels for nationwide transmission of their current programmes.

After a transitional period of 10 or 15 years they might even stop transmitting their regular programmes via earthbound transmitters altogether, relying entirely on the satellite.

Earthbound frequencies could then be reallocated to regional broadcasters. But this still leaves two important questions unanswered.

Who is to be given the third channel franchise? And what ARD programmes are to be screened between 6 and 8pm when, at present, regional programmes are transmitted?

Jörg Schumacher

(Der Tagesspiegel, 30 September 1979)

Hamburg exhibition casts light on Max Beckmann's 'exaggerations'

Max Beckmann's works were on show in the last room of the 1978 Paris-Berlin exhibition at the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

Yet even exhausted visitors wanting to take this final hurdle quickly had to stop to admire his haunting and grandiose *Abfahrt*, or the 'Self Portrait in Dinner Jacket', showing the artist as both strong man and exile.

Max Beckmann's work in Paris was the monumental finale to German art between the beginning of the century and the Nazi era. Everyone at the exhibition realised that Beckmann had transformed reality into something unreal and visionary, which continues to terrify even today.

The Hamburg Kunstverein is now holding an exhibition on "Max Beckmann as Graphic Artist". It is part of a series of exhibitions devoted mainly to artists who made their mark in the 1920s.

After George Grosz, Otto Dix, Conrad Felixmüller and Oskar Schlemmer comes the man whose artistic power the French continue to consider teutonic. The power of the graphic works on show in this exhibition — a power verging sometimes on violence — is no less evident than at the Paris exhibition.

The exhibition contains 150 drawings, etchings and lithographs, including the major series of illustrations. They cast light on the often mythical exaggeration of Beckmann's paintings. But they are also important links in the chain of confrontation with realism in the visual art of this century which has been a major preoccupation of the Kunstverein in recent years.

Max Beckmann, one of the most important German artists of the first half of this century, inaugurated no artistic school, left no successors.

He stands alone and always has done, despite many affinities for example with Grosz or Dix. He shares with these artists the clarity with which they reacted to the world between the wars. The apparently teutonic, the barbaric, unifying observation of people in their need, misery, loneliness and desires — such as



Max Beckmann's *Faces*, 1916

we find in Beckmann's paintings — is minutely pre-formulated in these drawings and series of illustrations.

Beckmann saw life as world theatre. He did not at first caricature or comment but registered what he saw with pain and sarcasm, with systematic obsessiveness in his drawings.

Beckmann soon saw the "unspeakable absurdity of life." According to his contemporary Kubin, Beckmann's work was "a reflection of our time which is almost enough to make the heart stop." In his own words, Beckmann wanted his work to be vulgar, fertile, great, real and grotesque. And this was the kind of work

The Bavarian Government is trying to make an art collections available to as many people as possible outside Munich.

So it has introduced a programme of decentralising collections. Part of this policy is the exhibition, "Ottoman-Turkish Handicraft from South German collections", now being held at the Bavarian Army Museum in Ingolstadt.

As a collection of Islamic Art, it makes no claim to rival that memorable



Max Beckmann's *Martyrdom ("Hell")*, 1919

he continued to produce until his death in 1950 in New York.

Born in 1884 in Leipzig, Beckmann had early artistic success in Berlin. He was a loner and remained one. After the World War I he taught at the Städtische Kunstschule in Frankfurt.

The day after the opening of the Degenerate Art Exhibition in Munich in 1937, Beckmann emigrated, first to Amsterdam, then to the USA. His work includes about 3,000 drawings and he also wrote commentaries and journals that are radical in their honesty.

The Hamburg Kunstverein's excellent catalogue uses these journal entries as a

Bavarian museums taken to the country

show initiated by Prince Rupprecht and held in Munich in 1910.

But as part of the decentralisation programme it is not designed to

The transfer of the Munich Army Museum collection to Ingolstadt (in the Neues Schloss since 1972) was at first an exception to the rule that state collections should be housed in Munich. Since then, the Ingolstadt model has proved its worth and is recommended for imitation.

The exhibition subtitle "From South German collections" indicates that almost all the loan items with which the Army Museum has temporarily increased its Turkish-Islamic collection come from the depots of the Munich museum of Ethnology. The Turkish items brought back as war booty during the wars of the 17th century — which originally belonged to the Wittelsbachs — had to be handed over to the National Museum and the Museum of Ethnology in 1926. During World War II, important parts of this collections were lost (especially flags).

Dr Peter Jaeckel, who was succeeded as director of the Army Museum by Dr Ernst Alchner in June, organised this exhibition and the produced the accom-

panying catalogue as a monument to his last work in the service of the Ingolstadt Museum.

A pointed brass helmet from the Mo-

Continued on page 11

very effective explanation of the drawings. Beckmann's world theatre is evident in his drawings. The observer of the pictures sees narrow spaces, limited zones, fair booths, circus arenas, the floors. He sees people and their lives "grotesque illusions" as Kunstverein rector Uwe H. Schneede says in a compelling introduction to the exhibition.

"The man who created these figures like the artist, and we who look at them know that this is not illusion but conclusion." Beckmann treats his figures like lion tamer. The figures do not form ensemble, they are shoved, pushed, led into rooms. They seem unduly threatened by a distorted involution with many angular forms. In his post-war works, for which Beckmann paid the price of a nervous breakdown, human beings and objects are crowded together as on altar pieces by late medieval German painters. Grünwaldt, the artist Beckmann admired most.

Beckmann's basic view of life is pessimistic, marked not only by a feeling of helplessness, as expressed in the frightened gestures and wide-open mouths of figures in his works of 1918, but also in the incomprehensibility of the self-portraits.

"Locked like children in a dark room we sit dutifully and wait for the dawn open and to be led to execution, death." A sentence of lithos, drawings and etchings.

The importance of Beckmann as graphic artist was for many years fully appreciated.

His graphic work is far from being mere sketches or preparatory material for his painting.

Visitors to this exhibition will learn as much from his direct, emotive response to reality as from the famous paintings.

Ursula Bode

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 September 1978)



A 17th century Turkish powder horn made of tortoise shell. (Photo: Kallio)

panying catalogue as a monument to his last work in the service of the Ingolstadt Museum.

Continued on page 11

MUSIC

To make the grade, academy studies alone are not enough

Music competitions are like top-class sporting events: those who can play as loud and fast as possible with the greatest virtuosity win the prizes.

Now, however, judges, especially in German competitions, also attach high importance to musical criteria. But this approach is still the exception. Sorcerers, as the virtuosi used to be known, are still in demand. Why do highly expert Russian and American soloists dominate our concert halls and opera stages? One thing is clear, "soul", once so highly rated in this country, is no longer able to cover up false or skipped notes.

Vital Margulis has for the past few years been Professor of Piano at the Freiburg Musical Academy. He belongs to the Russian school. Asked what this school is, he answers decisively: "Constant, special training from early on."

Freiburg music students say: Pity Margulis' pupils, they even have to practise during meals, until they collapse. Anyone wanting to join Margulis' class is told right from the start that he will have to practise for at least eight hours a day — and by at least he means at least. Sundays are not rest days for his pupils.

The remark that Walter Gieseking never practised (if it is true) does not help.

A frequent complaint at academies is that students are too crammed with information, that they have to spend too much time on subsidiary subjects, which keeps them away from practice on their instrument. The all-round musician, who does not spend all his time practising and yet still plays perfectly, does not seem to exist. Music academy graduates virtually never start giving public concerts as soon as they have passed their concert examination. This is when the real work begins. Nowadays, no one who has not spent some time in one of the major American musical training camps has a chance of making the grade. Perhaps all we need in this country are the trainers?

These American training camps are set in the country, usually far away from big cities. Here, in Marlboro or Tanglewood, would-be soloists from all over the world gather to be taught by leading international performing musicians. Itzhak Perlman, for example, gives a master class to one student in a giant tent, before an audience of hundreds.

It is significant that the once famous Kranichsteiner Ferienkurse (now renamed *Internationale Kurse für Neue Musik*) in Darmstadt is now held only biennially instead of annually. Composition is the main priority here though interpretation courses given by modern music experts are offered for all instruments. However, even here, the specialists of tomorrow have an opportunity — better than at the academies — to interpret modern music. The course is short, only three weeks, but at the academies there simply is no time to study this kind of music intensively, as every student has to concentrate on gaining his laurels in classical and romantic music. Very few music academy graduates have a major 20th century work in their repertoire when they leave.

There are many other areas which the musical academies can only deal with sketchily, if at all. For example, old music as originally written, using the old instruments. More and more young musicians tend to play Bach and the music of his time, not on 19th century instruments, but on the instruments of

Continued from page 10

seum of Ethnology (with Venetian lion in the wax seal) stands next to the helmet of a noble from the National Museum — a splendid item not mentioned in the catalogue.

Saddles, stirrups, helmets, halters, shields, mail shirts, whips, spurs and pistols are, here, peacefully united with a leather coat of a soldier of the old Turkish footguard and a woollen cap belonging to the Veste Coburg Museum. There is no shortage of cutting and thrusting weapons and daggers with delicately adorned blades.

The audience tent of the Grand Vizier Süleiman was captured in the Battle of Mohács on 12 August 1687, and restored as his last work in the service of the Ingolstadt Museum.

Reinhard Müller-Mehlis

(Münchener Merkur, 27 September 1979)

He is relaxed, humorous, witty — but relentless. Students learn first-hand from masters how to practise best at home. Our training camps never have the same relaxed, happy atmosphere as the American ones. On the other hand, we do not select those who can attend as rigorously as the Americans do.

German music students are slowly beginning to realise that their academy studies, though an important basis for their professional career, are not enough in themselves. The student must attend courses or summer academies — especially because there he is trained more intensively and at a higher level than can usually be attained in classes at the academy.

This is especially true when students wish to concentrate on special areas of interpretation, for example on the work of Johann Sebastian Bach. Inspired by the American example, conductor Helmut Rilling has now started a "J.S. Bach Summer Academy" which will be held annually and, in concentrated form, will give students from all over the world an opportunity to learn and practise current interpretations of Bach's music.

The novelty of Rilling's concept is in the combination of three areas of music that are generally kept separate: musical science, usually to be found only in university ghettos, music practice, which rarely attempts to learn from the findings of musical scientists, and music education, which often an area in which there is often insufficient contact with musical science and musical practice.

In future Rilling will ask for one new cantata a year to be composed, so that young musicians can also learn from interpreting modern music. This is a good idea, as young musicians are usually reluctant to play modern music. They do not like it. Perhaps they have seen that modern music specialists are not convincing interpreters of classical and romantic music. Furthermore young people today find it extremely difficult to identify with new works. One ensemble at an ensemble course in Hitzacker recently refused to study a work by Paul Hindemith.

It is significant that the once famous Kranichsteiner Ferienkurse (now renamed *Internationale Kurse für Neue Musik*) in Darmstadt is now held only biennially instead of annually. Composition is the main priority here though interpretation courses given by modern music experts are offered for all instruments. However, even here, the specialists of tomorrow have an opportunity — better than at the academies — to interpret modern music. The course is short, only three weeks, but at the academies there simply is no time to study this kind of music intensively, as every student has to concentrate on gaining his laurels in classical and romantic music. Very few music academy graduates have a major 20th century work in their repertoire when they leave.

There are many other areas which the musical academies can only deal with sketchily, if at all. For example, old music as originally written, using the old instruments. More and more young musicians tend to play Bach and the music of his time, not on 19th century instruments, but on the instruments of

Bach's time and in the manner prescribed by Bach.

Otto Ulf, a former orchestral musician and retired music teacher, hit on the idea of using the magnificent Ambros Castle near Innsbruck for the playing of this old music. Since then The Festival of Old Music has developed, with a summer academy which, for financial reasons, only lasts a week.

It is worth visiting the festival if only to hear the imaginative continuo playing of Herbert Tachezi, a member of the Concentus Musicus. His playing underlines the poverty of our established concert and teaching practice in this respect. Compositional ability is required to overcome balance and complement the bass voices for which contemporary composers never wrote notes.

Innsbruck has another novelty to offer: baroque dancing to the old rules, demonstrated by American dance expert Professor Shirley Wynne. She brought all the course students, including the non-dancers, together and made them imitate baroque dance movements. Striking resemblances were noted between body movements and musical breathing and representation.

The dynamically rich picture given by this old music played in the original and not in the romantic style was highly impressive. These were not music-historical rites but music full of impulses performed by musicians of today.

Here we acquire new ears for old music. Anyone who has taken part in a course such as this will find it difficult to return to conventional concert life.

Finally, there is chamber music, sadly neglected at the musical academies because there simply is not enough time for it. There is now a summer academy for chamber music in Hitzacker, in the Jagdschloss Göhrde Educational Centre. The aim of the course is to counter the one-sidedness of specialists and to

give these interested an opportunity to familiarise themselves more thoroughly with this music than they could at the academies, where chamber music is usually only an optional course. Here in the middle of the giant forest between Dannenberg and Lüneburg, in the castle where Kaiser Wilhelm II hunted in 1913, 50 or so young musicians and teachers come together to practise chamber music. For them, playing together is more important than solo virtuosity. Led by Friedrich v. Hausegger, a violinist who once had his own quartet, they study trios, quartets right up to octets which they hardly ever play in the music of his time, not on 19th century instruments, but on the instruments of

Music by computer

St Lawrence Church in Nuremberg has the first church organ equipment to include micro-processors. Left in picture is the keyboard of the organ, the second largest church organ in West Germany, with the keys for imparting the computerised programme. The organist is St Lawrence music director Hermann Harms. This electronic system developed by Siemens allows 40 combinations of registers, and therefore of tones, compared with four in standard organs. (Photo: Siemens)

Combinations of wind and strings are rare at the academies because of time clashes and because students have enough to do to master their own instruments. Yet chamber music is vitally important for many musicians.

Who become soloists? The few candidates who make the grade later take up chamber music without having the necessary training for it.

At Hitzacker, the teachers change, and not only every year. Amadeus Primarius Brainin was here, the Lassalle quartet is coming in 1981; clarinettist Jost Michiels teaches here, as do v. Slogar of the Former Danzi quartet, pianist Carl Seemann and maestro Antonio Janigro.

The aim at the Hitzacker course, which lasts three weeks, is for the ensemble to be given expert tuition by string teachers, wind specialists and pianists. The atmosphere is decidedly informal — as one would expect with chamber music. Here, too, they start with fundamentals: reading the notes. This is more difficult than one might think — and not because of the edition problems. As soon as they start discussing questions of harmony and of nuance, these musicians realise how salutary course work can be. The soloist becomes an ideal democrat. He is someone but he nonetheless submits to the same discipline as the others.

It is astonishing and pleasing that the young musicians from many countries are remarkably hard-working and willing to learn. Thirst for knowledge is back in vogue again. Talk about pressure on students leads to mocking smiles here. Summer academies are at last, even in this country, becoming important cultural events, the coronation of a musical academy career, often having to make up for serious deficiencies at the academies.

One important side-effect is that teachers themselves learn a great deal from contact with colleagues and students.

In the words of Helmut Rilling: "Interpreting music is a living thing, it cannot be pinned down. I hope our interpretations next year will be different from today's."

Wolf-Eberhard von Lewinski

(Deutsche Zeitung, 28 September 1979)



St Lawrence Church in Nuremberg has the first church organ equipment to include micro-processors. Left in picture is the keyboard of the organ, the second largest church organ in West Germany, with the keys for imparting the computerised programme. The organist is St Lawrence music director Hermann Harms. This electronic system developed by Siemens allows 40 combinations of registers, and therefore of tones, compared with four in standard organs. (Photo: Siemens)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Russians flock to show and learn what the papers didn't say

An exhibition in the Soviet Union featuring life in West Germany has drawn throngs of Russians.

The exhibition, entitled "A Glimpse of the Federal Republic of Germany," was held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

The Russians, Azerbaijanis and Armenians of Baku, on the Caspian Sea, for the first time had an opportunity to learn something about the distant country in the West which the local media has ignored.

The information gap was filled, by posters, photographs, books, a film and recorded pop music.

For the average Soviet newspaper reader and TV viewer, West Germany's reality is marked not so much by VWs and kindergartens but by unemployment, social misery and neo-Nazism.

The opportunity to see the other side of the story brought throngs to the Baku Art Gallery for the exhibition.

Plastic bags with the German eagle were distributed free to carry brochures.

Such scenes are part and parcel of all foreign exhibitions in Moscow or Leningrad. The fact that the Federal Republic of Germany has now been able to introduce itself off the beaten track as well is primarily due to the work of the German-Soviet Friendship Society.

Said an Azerbaijan representative, his eyes riveted on a photograph of President Karl Carstens: "We want to impart life to the Moscow Treaty."

The exhibition not only centred around the history of the Federal Republic of Germany but above all around the relations between the two countries since Adenauer days and the 1970 Treaty.

A series of glossy photographs illustrated party leader Leonid Brezhnev's visits to Bonn in 1973 and 1978, showing that every important German politician had a chance at least once to share a sofa with the Soviet leader, among them Helmut Schmidt, Willy Brandt, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Helmut Kohl and Franz-Josef Strauss.

The contents and the composition of the show were carefully prepared, and the jocular Soviet admonishment of "no Bibles and no Solzhenitsyn" was quite unnecessary.



There were two things the organisers wanted to avoid at any cost: to provoke, and to provide propaganda instead of information.

Photographs by Barbara Klemm showed scenes of people at work and portraits of Heinrich Böll, Günter Grass, Udo Lindenberg and Boney M on the stage.

The books on show included German translations of the works of the younger generation of Soviet authors plus German classics and contemporaries, among them (perhaps with a thought of Caspian Sea sturgeon) Johannes Mario Simmel's "It Needn't Always be Caviar".

Visitors to the show busy themselves copying dressmaking patterns. A few ask hesitant questions.

Dr Abdullayev, dean of the German department at the Baku Institute of Languages, steps forward and introduces himself. His German is almost unaccented, as is that of his escort. They studied in Berlin, Leipzig and Dresden. Dr Abdullayev helps himself to some reading matter, saying: "I read a lot in German, and when I'm at home I talk to myself in your language."

In addition to the exhibition there is also a competition programme. Months before the show opened Baku schools distributed quiz questionnaires, promising prizes for the winners. The contest was so popular that masses of people

frantically worked at finding the answers to such questions as: "What is the chancellor's name?" or "Where was Karl Marx born? In Karl Marx City, in Trier or in Hamburg?"

At the conservatory and in private houses, amateur artists rehearse German music because there is also a prize for the best rendition of "Heiderölslein", a German folk song.

Another programme goes under the slogan: "Children Paint for Children".

The exhibition was held last year in Kiev and Tiflis, eventually coming to Yerevan and Baku. Next year it will be shown in Dushanbe and Alma Ata in Central Asia. It is hoped also to be able to visit the three Baltic Soviet republics.

Each show stays open for seven days and attracts between 700 and 2,000 visitors a day. The cost of about DM150,000 is provided by the Bonn Press and Information Office and the Foreign Office. Donations add to the kitty.

So far, nothing has been said of a Soviet exhibition in the Federal Republic of Germany, but there are plans to hold "Days of Azerbaijan Culture" with folk songs, dancing and concerts in Ludwigshafen, Heidelberg, Mannheim, Stuttgart and Munich.

The Azerbaijan Days will be attended by the chairman of the Friendship Society in Baku, Habi Chasri. Among the professions listed on his calling card is also "poet". In addition, he is an expert on toasts promoting understanding among peoples.

Leo Wieland
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 September 1979)

Society keeps student exchanges moving

Founded in 1949, the Carl Duisberg Society (CDG) recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. The Society is named after the chemist and former general manager of the Bayer works.

Initially, the CDG continued the pre-war tradition of student exchanges for on-the-job training between the United States and Germany. The Society tried to

expand this to include France, and Britain, but did not succeed until 1954.

The student exchange programme is still going strong. German business, which funds CDG, increasingly depends on executive staff with foreign experience and fluency in foreign languages.

Today, CDG deals much more in exchange programmes with Africa, Asia and Latin America. This enables students there to acquire in Germany the know-how they will later need at home.

The first "Foreigners' Circle" for the



training of foreign students was founded in 1954. By now there are five Carl Duisberg Centres for language and other specialised courses. The "reception" is at the Saarbrücken centre and virtually all scholarship holders from developing countries pass through it.

There they receive their first information about Germany, take a simple test in German and undergo a physical checkup.

The Carl Duisberg Promotion Circle was founded in 1972 to promote contacts between the CDG and German business.

Hans-Jürgen Götz
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 21 September 1979)

Author tries to dispel old prejudices

A Polish political scientist has attempted to dispel old prejudices about Poland in an essay published together with those by other authors in a 600-page book available in German.

In it, the author, Franciszek Rydzka, deals with the image of Poland and Poles in Germany.

Much of the image people have of Poland is put to a book about Poland written 200 years ago about the mud and waste found side-by-side with poverty and luxury.

Rydzka says that Warsaw has in fact been in mud for the third time of the country under Prussian rule and that Paris looked pretty much the same at that time.

Deliberately taken out of context detail is significant for the author's detanking and the intention behind. The objective is to remove old prejudices and wrong ideas that have come from the belief of a cultural gradient West to East. It was necessary, the author says, to exaggerate in order to date.

Lopsided views in both directions

These lopsided views of the nations about each other can also be found among the Poles where they go far as to claim — and this can't apply to the GDR — the while efficient and remarkable for the material achievements, the Germans a main the "creators of Mercedes and Volkswagens."

The book, entitled "Federal Republic of Germany — People's Republic of Poland, Balance Sheet and Relations, Problems and Perspectives of Normalisation" has just been published in German by Metzner-Verlag, Frankfurt.

In both Germany and Poland it will have a circulation of 3,000 copies. Its price in Germany is DM49.80 and in Poland zloty 150 (equivalent of DM14).

The book is primarily meant for specialists and is "unprecedented" as one of the Polish editors puts it.

And, indeed, there has been no precedent for such a common effort to tear down barriers between East and West.

Says Jerzy Sulek, one of the Polish editors: "We're not writing about ancient history but about the normalisation process of the 70s."

He spoke on behalf of the 16 Polish and eight German historians, jurists and sociologists who, as far back as 1971, decided to write such a book dealing with the problems of two peoples. Some passages were written three or four times.

As the Bonn political scientist Christoph Schweitzer points out, the of similarities in the assessment of historic processes grew longer and longer and that of different viewpoints shorter and shorter. As a result, a number of articles had to be rewritten several times.

Just to set the record straight, the differences that remain are not glossed over. This is particularly conspicuous in connection with the border issue of the question who is still considered a German in Poland.

And because the Poles' jurist Lach

Continued on page 14.

MEDICINE

Cash support for artificial hearts urged, 'to save thousands of lives'

Artificial hearts could save the lives of 100,000 people every year, including 2,000 in West Germany, delegates to a West Berlin conference were told.

Professor Emil Sebastian Böhmer, of the Free University of Berlin, said in his opening speech that research into the artificial heart at the moment depended on strong financial support to solve the remaining problems and to work out the techniques for everyday clinical practice.

Priority must be given to this research because the number of people with heart disease was, if anything, increasing. For many sufferers, the only hope in the long run was an artificial heart.

One hundred and fifty delegates from all over the world attended the conference, at the Berlin Congress Centre.

Dr Lowell T. Harrison, of Rockville, USA, said that the long waiting lists of patients prepared to undergo heart transplants underlined the need to alleviate the problem by developing an artificial heart.

Professor Böhmer said that from an economic as well as from a human point of view the artificial heart was so important that no one would complain about the money invested in research as soon as the first artificial heart had been implanted and was working successfully.

The lively discussion on the first day underlined that the problem is primarily one of detail. The ideal material for the artificial heart still has not been found.

Dr Francis Pillick of the US Federal Institute in Bethesda summarised the



state of international research when saying that the various research groups had so far managed to produce materials which met some but not all of the requirements, which are: durability, flexibility, a compatibility with blood and tissue, purity and smoothness of surface.

In the early stages of research, the main practical obstacles were the destruction of blood and the formation of blood clots. This problem has now largely been overcome in animal experiments. Animals now live for 100 to 200 days after having artificial hearts implanted.

The main problem now is the calcification of artificial hearts.

These deposits are so sharp and pointed that they make the plastic material porous and liable to crumble. This is unacceptable in view of the fact that the material must remain intact in the human body for years. However, some speakers at the conference said that this might be an imaginary problem as the animals in the experiment were calves which were still growing and would thus have high calcium levels in the blood.

If it could be proven that calcification was not such a problem in the case of fully grown cattle, then calcification

Innovation in spine curve surgery

A German specialist has developed a new method of operating on severe curvature of the spine. Klaus Zielke, head of the German Scoliosis Centre in Bad Wildungen, gave a demonstration of this new technique at a recent seminar for orthopaedists attended by specialists from the USA, Japan, Syria and Austria.

The operation lasts between 40 minutes and six hours, depending on the seriousness of the case. The surgeon corrects the position of the spinal column using a special device.

One of the specialists who attended the seminar said afterwards: "After the operation, patients can leave the hospital straight-backed."

With this new technique, the spinal column is approached via the thorax. This is significantly less dangerous than the old method, by which surgeons operated on the spinal column "from the rear."

It is estimated that five thousand people in this country suffer from severe curvature of the spinal column. ddp
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 21 September 1979)

New treatment for blood vessel diseases

New methods of treatment have been found for "smokers' leg" and other diseases involving blocked blood vessels.

Scientists in several countries have developed artificial arteries similar to natural ones, but with a high degree of elasticity.

This was one of the breakthroughs discussed at a three-day meeting in Düsseldorf of the Angiological Societies of West Germany, Austria and Switzerland attended by 600 experts from all over the world.

The specialists stressed that veins — the patients' and others' umbilical cord veins and carotid arteries of cows and calves are used as well as artificial arteries.

Blood flow could also be sped up using drugs. Another method which produced good results was the extension of blood vessels by means of inflatable catheters. dpa
(Handelsblatt, 28 September 1979)

Crop virus hits at sales

Until recently it was assumed that diseases of corn caused by viruses were economically unimportant.

It has now been shown however that these viruses can lead to a sharp drop in profits from corn sales. The yellow stunt virus and the yellow mosaic (affecting barley) are the most serious.

The yellow mosaic virus has proved especially dangerous. It can survive in the ground for long periods and can obviously be carried by agricultural machines. The virus has been found in Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia and North Hesse. It has made up to 50 per cent of a crop unsaleable.

Winfried Huith, of the Institute of Virus Diseases of Plants, forecasts that this disease will become more widespread in the next few years.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 September 1979)

Insurance institute spells out death statistics

Average life expectancy of people in this country could be increased by 12 years if the years lost because of sickness and accident could be eliminated, according to a report by the Scientific Institute of the Local Health Insurance Schemes (WIdO).

The report is the first systematic analysis of the number of years lost as a result of premature death. The causes of death are also listed and compared.

The figures underline the importance of health care and regular check-ups. The WIdO calculates that 9.4 m years of life are lost prematurely every year in this country.

Heart attacks top the list. The average life expectancy of a male baby is reduced

by 24.2 months by the risk of heart attack; 13 m years of life are lost in this country every year due to heart attacks. Road accidents lead to an annual loss of 510,000 years. On average, road accident victims would have had another 33.6 years to live.

Suicides reduce life by an average of 25.5 years and cause an annual loss of 350,000 years of life. Cancer reduces

average life expectancy of the population as a whole by 2.5 years, diabetes by 3.2 months. For victims of these diseases, the loss of years is 10 and 12 respectively — a total of about 1.5 million years of life.

Many of these premature deaths could be avoided if those involved led more healthy lives. Cigarette smokers, for example, risk an average loss of 12.3 years of life. Excessive alcohol consumption, one of the major causes of cirrhosis of the liver, leads to an average loss of 16 years.

If we could cut the number of fatal road accidents by half, the average life expectancy of all male inhabitants of this country would increase by 4.9 months and 255,000 fewer years of life would be lost.

Theoretically, life expectancy could be increased by 12 years. At the moment the average life expectancy of men is 68 years and that of women is 74.5 years.

The study also shows that the loss of life caused by infectious and parasitic diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia has dropped sharply since 1952.

Infant mortality has dropped sharply. In the case of heart and circulatory diseases, there has been an absolute increase in the number of deaths compared with the 1950s.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 27 September 1979)

JAEGER'S INTERTRAVEL

WORLD GUIDE TO TRAVEL AGENCIES AND SELECTED HOTELS

JAEGER'S INTERTRAVEL — World Guide to Travel Agencies and selected Hotels — is a manual containing addresses and detailed information about special services of 20,000 travel agencies from 150 countries throughout the world, supplemented by advertisements of hotels and other tourist enterprises.

JAEGER'S INTERTRAVEL is a valuable aid for all those who wish to get into contact with travel agents all over the world, obtain information about their services or who want to publish pinpointed advertisements.

JAEGER'S INTERTRAVEL can be delivered immediately at the price of DM 72.— cfr. Please order it directly from us or request a copy for inspection without commitment. We will also be pleased to inform you about the possibilities of advertising in this book.

JAEGER-VERLAG GMBH, POB 11 03 20, D-6100 DARMSTADT

ORDER FORM

I/We hereby subscribe to THE GERMAN TRIBUNE until further notice at the following rates (postage included):

Six months Deutsche Marks 18.00
Twelve months Deutsche Marks 35.00
(Underline whatever applicable)

Messrs / Mr / Mrs / Miss

Name

Profession

Street

City

Country

Zip Code

Please return the completed order form to:
THE GERMAN TRIBUNE · FRIEDRICH REINECKE VERLAG GMBH
23 Schöne Aussicht, D-2000 Hamburg 78 · Federal Republic of Germany

Hikers stride out for all corners — with pitfalls for the unwary

A nation has taken to the highways and byways. It jogs and hikes. Why? Is it the vaunted flight from the tedium of everyday life or is it a new health consciousness or does it perhaps have something to do with the energy crisis? Is it a hard drive or is it a gimmick?

One thing it is for sure: a fad and a money spinner. The desire for locomotion on foot is increasingly turning into big business.

A Munich sporting goods store advertises Adidas jogging shoes for DM39.90 to mark the first Munich City Jog. But perhaps the jogging shoe model "SL 80" for DM72 is even better — or why not the "Roadrunner" for DM99.50? After all, the feet, too, deserve their status symbol. And then, of course, you should also have the jogger's pedometer, adjustable stride and all, for DM45.

Thus, equipped to perfection, the German of today is ready to take off. In fact, there should soon be barely anybody in this country who has not been awarded a hiking medal or a jogging citation. All Alpine Länder award such medals for specific mountain routes in gold, silver or bronze. There are also the Golden Rucksack, the Silver Edelweiss, the Golden Mountain Goat and the Enzian in bronze.

The range of hiking and jogging deals is enormous. Among the more popular ones is "Hiking without Luggage": Nimble porters transport the wanderer's expensive suitcase from one hotel to the other. Even the mountains around Kitzbühel and Lech am Arlberg of ski fame have now become hikers' paradises and ski instructors have become hikers' guides. But the clientele is different; there are fewer delectable ski bunnies and more ample mammas from the flatlands.

There is hardly a village in Austria that does not have its hiking weeks or hiking days. A type of hiker's lift pass, modelled on the ski lift pass, has meanwhile also been introduced. The hiker takes the lift up the mountain and strolls back to the valley.

The Austrians now act as if they had

Continued from page 12

Janicki's ideas do not tally with those of Schweitzer, he inserted a footnote on the appropriate Janicki page, saying: "From the Federal Republic of Germany's vantage point this formulation could be misunderstood, to say the least."

When writing on the flight of Germans driven from Poland, one section of the book uses euphemisms, talking of "a population shift." But notwithstanding the euphemisms, the text speaks of the flight of some four million Germans, involving great loss of life, and of the deportation of German and Polish families.

Deputy Bundestag Speaker Richard von Weizsäcker (CDU), former FDP Member of Parliament William Born and MPs Gerhard Jahn (SPD) and Werner Marx (CDU) were present in Bonn when Professor Schweitzer (himself an MP from 1972 to 1976) told them what the authors' objective was: to distort one's own view as only part of reality and to eliminate distortions by improved information.

Rudolf Struch
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 September 1979)

invented legs. They speak of "Wanderbar Austria". The advertising slogan was promoted by the minister in charge of tourism two years ago when the tourist business was in the doldrums.

Having given the signal, his PR people went to work organising the hiking wave on a "money no object" basis. So far, they have spent DM7m.

But since people have always wandered, the whole thing needed some attractive garnishing. So now there are hikes complete with picnic, hikes with schnapps-tasting sessions, package deal hikes with stalking maling stags, hikes to inspect power stations and hikes with a rucksack full of provisions provided, these consisting primarily of smoked bacon and fruit schnapps.

In their promoters' eagerness, the organisers have come up with a "trans-border hiker's pass" between Vorarlberg and the Allgäu.

Before hiking up a mountain, the participants undergo a medical test in Seefeld, Tyrol.

The mountain village Kappel, also in the Tyrol, promises the hiker a free glass of milk at a mountain farm "guaranteed fresh from the udder."

Another Tyrolean village, Sankt Johann, has just awarded the "first golden hiking shoe" (original size) to a man from Sollnigen. While his wife and son took the train, he had hiked to the Tyrol.

This prompted the Sankt Johann tourism organisers to award the shoe to everybody who has hiked to them over a distance of more than 400 kilometers.

Our parents and grandparents packed their rucksacks and simply set off. But now hiking is an industrial product. A marketing company has come up with the following offer: "Hiking as a discipline of sport for all who want their

performance measurable and demonstrable. They get a certificate with an impressive seal plus a hiker's badge.

Performance drive and stress have thus taken hold of the formerly leisurely hike.

Not to be outdone by "Wanderbar Austria", the neighbouring countries have now also jumped on the bandwagon.

Berchtesgaden awards a golden rucksack to mountain hikers and fashionable Cortina d'Ampezzo in Italy has special deals for hotel guests who can take mountain hikes and spend a couple of days in an Alpine hut with full board and at no extra cost.

Switzerland has reacted with equanimity, saying that it was the only country where hiking has been provided for in the Constitution and is hence protected. Since a referendum on 18 February, road construction and agricultural products may no longer interfere with hiking paths.

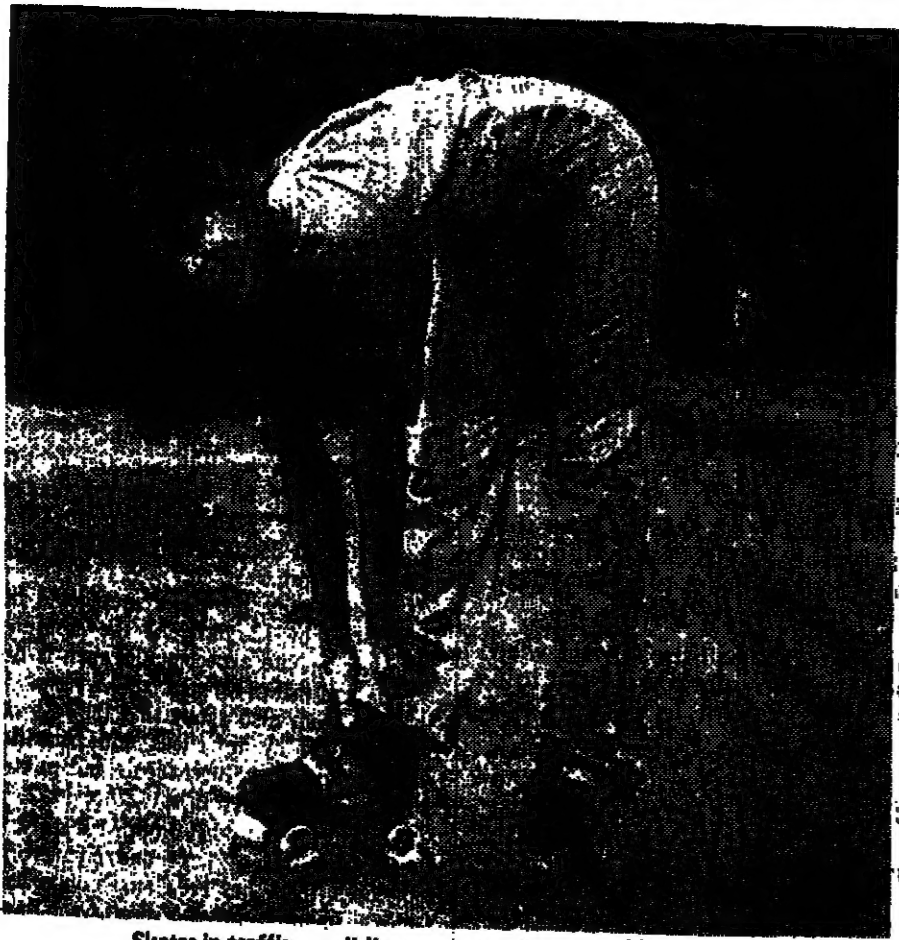
Dozens of Swiss holiday resorts have for years had special hiking arrangements. Their slogan is "Switzerland makes it truly easy for its guests who want to get going. The only thing they have to do for themselves is move their feet."

Of all the forms of hiking, mountain hiking is the most problematic.

Says the Tyrolean tourist office manager, "Luis Pichler about the participants in the local group hiking project: 'It's a frightful way some people turn out. They really think that they could wander around at an altitude of 2000 metres as they would in a park.'"

Anyone who goes on a mountain hike in a track suit with normal street shoes should inform the rescue service beforehand and reserve a hospital bed.

It is very difficult to explain to people



Skates in traffic... sliding round the finer points of the law.

(Photo: Jürgen Klache)

The roller skate causes a legal headache

The roller skate has caused legal problems. Bavaria's Minister of the Interior Gerold Tandler, says: "We are confronted with problems of traffic legislation that our fathers never dreamt of."

The minister has therefore introduced laws governing the position of the skater in traffic.

In terms of this law, skates are not a road vehicle, but have the same status as sleds and children's scooters. As a result, skates require no lights.

But skaters must be guided by road regulations. Pedestrians must not be endangered or hampered.

Herr Tandler said that he does not view the roller skate fever as a malady but as a healthy habit worthy of promotion.

Contrary to the new guidelines for skaters, the police treated a 21-year-old skater as a vehicle, fining him accordingly for a traffic offence. When he refused to pay, the police pressed charges. His lawyer has meanwhile said that his client would appear in court as a "vehicle."

(Der Tagesspiegel, 25 September 1979)

SPORT

30 years since Olympic body was set up

The National Olympic Committee for Germany was set up in Bonn in 24 September 1949, the day after the Federal Republic of Germany officially came into being.

First congratulations came in from Vice-Chancellor Franz Blücher, Konrad Adenauer's deputy, closely followed by greetings from Theodor Heuss, the Bonn head of State. Those were the days!

The men who had helped to re-establish organised sport in Germany after the war had waited three years for this day.

They underwent countless difficulties crossing zonal borders to meet in pursuit of the Olympic idea, which they hoped would provide a generation that had gone through World War II with a ray of hope.

The 1948 London or 1952 Helsinki Olympics had little to do with money and much to do with dreams of peace and international understanding.

To deny these ideals that motivated organised sport 30 years ago is to belittle historical truth.

The National Olympic Committee for Germany did not see itself as successor to the German Olympic Committee, abolished on 1 December 1945 by Allied Control Council Directive No. 23.

But it was certainly intended to perform its predecessor's task of restoring links between German sport and the Olympic movement.

The Committee for Participation by Germany in the 1896 Athens Olympic Games was founded in 1895, so today's 30-year-old NOC goes back 84 years in one form or another.

In 1949 men such as Carl Diem (1882-1962), Peco Bauwens (1886-1963), the Duke of Mecklenburg (1873-1969), Willi Daume (born 1913) and Max Danz (born 1908) had only one ambition: to ensure German participation in the 1952 Helsinki (and Oslo) Olympics.

In 1950 when Karl von Halt was released from Soviet imprisonment in Buchenwald and chose to settle in the Federal Republic he was soon (in January 1951) to be elected NOC chairman.

He took over as chairman from the Duke of Mecklenburg, who was happy to take on unofficial commitments but did not relish official appointments.

Diem and von Halt, neither of them politically-minded men, had shown flexibility in the Third Reich and came in for tough criticism in the early 50s.

But both were held in high repute in Olympic circles and domestic criticism had no international effect. In 1951 Karl von Halt had little difficulty in gaining IOC recognition of his NOC.

This meant Germany could take part in the 1952 Olympics. Von Halt had been an IOC member since 1929 and was a personal friend of Sigfrid Edström and Avery Brundage, IOC chairman and vice-chairman respectively.

He soon had GDR sports officials, who completely lacked Olympic experience (as did the Soviet Union), on the

defensive. The result was all-German Olympic teams at Melbourne, Rome and Tokyo.

Team selection was part of what, from 1951 to 1965, were diplomatically termed intra-German squabbles. And choosing the teams for six Olympics (summer and winter) was no easy task.

Between 1951 and 1964 there were about 260 rounds of East-West talks on the subject.

All-German team selection for the 1964 Innsbruck and Tokyo Olympics, for instance, took 14 rounds of negotiations at NOC level, 96 talks between representatives of the respective sports associations and 60 qualifying tournaments of fixtures.

In the middle of these often sub-zero talks on whether East or West Germany was to have majority representation in the joint Olympic team Karl von Halt retired in 1961.

His place was taken by Essen iron dealer Willi Daume, whom writer Rudolf Hagelstange once called "the careful pilot of German sport."

Herr Daume is still NOC chairman. He has held office longer than any of his 11 predecessors since 1895.

In 1965 the all-German Olympic team ceased to exist, so he decided as a counterweight to step up his country's Olympic commitments. He was instrumental in ensuring IOC approval of Munich's bid to host the 1972 Olympics.

In his 18 years at the helm he has made a most personal mark on the way the NOC, a true civic pressure group, is run.

It works noiselessly but effectively. It makes no untoward intellectual claims but exerts gratifying international influence and enjoys a worldwide reputation.

Karl Adolf Scherer
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 30 September 1979)

Tables are turned in national acrobatic cycling titles

Gerhard Obert from Mannheim, a former world champion at indoor cycling of the artistic or acrobatic variety, threw down the gauntlet.

Franz Kratochvil, the reigning German and world champion, took up the challenge at the national championships in Moers, near Düsseldorf.

A week before the championships Obert, a mechanical engineer, set up a new world record of 327.3 points in Worms, beating Kratochvil.

But the 22-year-old modern languages student turned the tables in Moers, winning his second national championship.

His six-minute routine was safely performed and earned him 325.35 points, or less than two points short of the new world record.

Both men have entered for the world championships, to be held in Strasbourg, France, at the end of October.

Now world champion Gabi Höhrer has retired, national coach Pfeiffer will have to enter the new national champion Regine Jiskra and ex-GDR ace Gudrun Lorenz against Anne Matousova of Czechoslovakia at Strasbourg.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 1 October 1979)



Entrants in the international regatta at Travemünde.

(Photo: Hans Krippans)

German yachtsmen take three championships

West German yachtsmen won three of the six Olympic-class titles at the international regatta at Travemünde, on the Baltic.

They were Wolfgang Gerz in the Finn dinghy, Alexander Hagen and Vincent Hösch in the Star and former world champions and Olympic bronze medalists Jörg Spengler and Jörg Schmall in the Tornado.

Twins Erik and Sjord Vollebregt from Holland won the Flying Dutchman title. Michel Kermanec and Jean Champy from France won the 470. Philip Crebbin, Mark Dowlands and Barry Dunning of Britain won the Soling.

The Vollebregt brothers were well clear of the field in the Flying Dutchman but on a glorious final day with sunshine and a steady force three northerly breeze there were thrilling finishes in the other events.

The outcome was closest in the Star, where crews were evidently so nervous that there were two false starts. When the all clear was finally given the favourites still never lost sight of each other.

Yet after the first buoy Hagen and Hösch were ninth, whereas Eckart Wagner and Jörg Mössnang, their Bavarian rivals, were trailing at 14th.

The Lübeck crew came in sixth, and although the Bavarians too moved forward to ninth place past the post, it was not enough to snatch victory from defeat.

Wolfgang Gerz in the Finn dinghy sailed a tactically astute race on the heels of his closest competitor, Graham Deegan of New Zealand. Gerz came in second, behind Deegan, but that was enough to ensure the title win.

Otto Pohlmann from Berlin and Thomas Jungblut from Hamburg came third and fourth. They are obviously keen to qualify for next year's Olympic regatta in Tallinn. It is gratifying to see such promising newcomers after a long spell in the doldrums.

In the 470 Wolfgang Hunger and Nils Körte from Kiel won the final race, coming fourth overall.

Since the Oetken brothers from Frankfurt had come third (and Kermelec and Champy second), they were no longer able to pip the French champions at the post in the overall classification.

Albert and Rudolf Batzill, from Friedrichshafen, won the final Flying Dutchman race, but Blake and Houchip of Britain came second, making sure they were runners-up to the Vollebregt brothers in the overall rating.

But one consolation for the Batzill brothers was that they came in ahead of their cousin, Olympic gold medalist Jörg Desch, in the Olympic qualification.

In the Tornado Spengler and Schmall benefited from David King of Britain, the previous day's winner, being disqualified (as was fellow-countryman Mike Martin) for not carrying the required anchor.

In the Soling, Willi Kuhweide came sixth, but that was enough to assure him of the runner-up's slot. Two of his closest rivals, Bandalowski of Denmark and Simonds of Britain, came completely unstick in the final race.

Klaus C. M. Peters
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 30 September 1979)

(Photo: Horst Müller)